## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

## 1.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim 5, wherein the image-forming layer contains a compound having at least either a functional group represented by formula (3) or a functional group represented by formula (4):

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^6 \\
- O \\
R^4
\end{array}$$
(4)

wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl group;  $R^3$  represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl group;  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl group; either  $R^5$  or  $R^6$  represents a hydrogen atom and the other represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl group; and arbitrary two of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  may form a ring, and arbitrary two of  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  may form a ring.

5. (Previously Presented) A lithographic printing plate precursor comprising a support having a hydrophilic surface having provided thereon an image-forming layer containing a hydrophobic high molecular compound having at least either a functional group represented by formula (1) or a functional group represented by formula (2):

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & O \\
 & \parallel \\
 & \parallel \\
 & O \\$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
O \\
-C - O & X \\
\end{array}$$
(2)

wherein  $X^{+}$  represents an iodonium ion, a sulfonium ion or a diazonium ion represented by formula (7):

$$R^{29}$$
 $R^{28}$ 
 $R^{28}$ 
 $R^{26}$ 
 $R^{26}$ 
 $R^{26}$ 
 $R^{26}$ 

wherein R<sup>26</sup> to R<sup>30</sup> each represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group, an alkenyl group, or a functional group represented by any of the following formulae:

wherein R<sup>31</sup>, R<sup>32</sup> and R<sup>33</sup> each represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkynyl group or an alkenyl group and arbitrary two of R<sup>26</sup> to R<sup>30</sup> may form a ring.